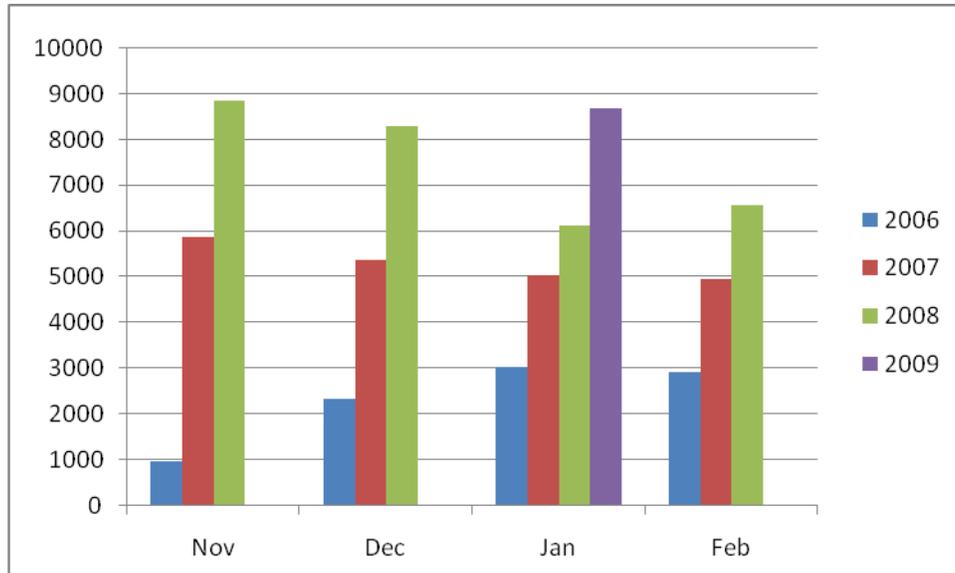


Director's Report for January 2009

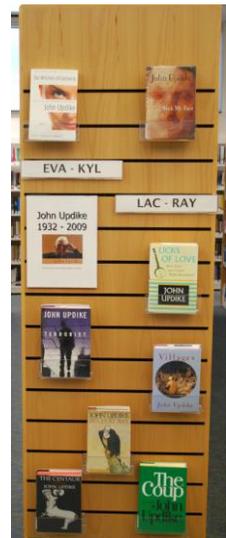
January's circulation (8702) increased by 5% from December (8293), and increased 42% from this time last year (6118).



11 new end caps installed by Library Interiors. With the exception of one, all face the general reading area of the library. A variety of fixtures allow selected library media to be displayed on the end cap. The old encaps will be packaged up and moved to off-island storage within the next week.

A limited number of Blu-Ray videos now available. At this time collection development limited to theatrical releases that have received “blockbuster” status.

New furniture has arrived at the History Center. Library shelving, table, workstation, and chairs have been set up in the “Map Room”. By mid-February, we will have the shelves populated. Programming the room on a limited basis will start at that time. Connectivity remains an outstanding issue. Photos in History Center Monthly Report.



The Library has become a collection point for Holy Redeemer Food Pantry. Over 150 families in Cape May County, a 30% increase from last year, are being helped by this service. The Food Pantry picks up our non-perishable food donations once a week.



Library sponsors school visit by the Walnut Street Theatre Outreach Program. Two crews of actors visited the Avalon Elementary School for 2 performances on January 29. *Mean Girlz are Bullies 2* and *The Brave Little Tailor* were seen by over 120 students from Avalon and Stone Harbor.

Millenium upgrade successful. On January 21, the Millenium dedicated server was replaced and a series of software upgrades were installed. An additional upgrade will occur in the coming month, giving patrons the ability to order Library by Mail materials directly from our catalog.

Library hosts Customer Service Fundamentals workshop on January 21. 23 people representing 7 libraries including 4 from Cape May County Library attended this South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative sponsored workshop. Avalon was represented by 12 employees wearing shirts with the library logo.

Staff members attend 4 other workshops in January. Terri, Shannon, Elizabeth and Melannie attended a workshop about dealing with unacceptable employee behavior. Michelle participated in a webinar on conversations with a difficult employee. Linda and Terri participated in a graphics design workshop. Melannie learned about new interlibrary loan features of JerseyCat through a State Library sponsored webinar. The director attended an informational meeting at the Cherry Hill Public Library about state library funding cutbacks.



The Library cosponsors poetry contest with the Barrier Island Writers. Karen Avita who attends Sea Isle City School, and Allen Weidman, a student at Avalon Elementary School winners of the Barrier Island Poetry Contest. Karen was the winner with her poem *Sunrise*. Alan received an Honorable Mention for *Rainy Day*. Both participants received gift certificates to Book Shoppe in Cape May Court House.

Shopping baskets are now available for the convenience of our patrons.

